

# OSTER Researching Services

12897 Colonial Dr. • Mt. Airy, Md. 21771  
301-253-6040

1 5623

RECORDATION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ FILE NO.

May 9, 1988

MAY 9 1988 9 40 AM

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

No. 8-130A010

Date MAY 9 1988

Fee \$ 13.00

ICC Washington, D. C.

Ms. Mildred Lee  
Recordations Unit  
Interstate Commerce Commission  
12th & Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20007

Dear Ms. Lee:

Enclosed is a Lease of Railroad Equipment dated March 1, 1988,  
between the following parties:

Lessor: Helm Financial Corporation  
One Embarcadero Center  
San Francisco, CA 94111

Lessee: Wisconsin & Central LTD.  
P. O. Box 5062  
Rosemont, IL

The equipment involved in this agreement is as follows:

Equipment: 50, 100-ton 50'6" Boxcars  
WC 20000-20049

Please record this document as an original. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Mary Ann Oster*

Mary Ann Oster  
Research Consultant

Enclosure

TOC OFFICE OF  
THE STORER  
MAY 9 9 32 AM '88  
NOTICE OPERATING UNIT

*Completed May 9, 1988*

1  
RECORDATION NO. 5623  
MAY 9 1988-9 44 AM  
INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

LEASE OF RAILROAD EQUIPMENT

LEASE OF RAILROAD EQUIPMENT, dated as of March 1, 1988 between HELM FINANCIAL CORPORATION, a California corporation, (hereinafter called the "Lessor") and the WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD., an Illinois corporation (hereinafter called the "Lessee"). The term "Affiliate" as used hereinafter means any parent or subsidiary of the Lessee.

WHEREAS, the Lessor is owner of fifty 50'6" 100-ton boxcars more fully described in Annex A hereto (hereinafter called the "Units");

WHEREAS, the Lessee desires to lease from the Lessor all the Units at the rentals and for the terms and upon the conditions hereinafter provided;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and of the rentals to be paid and the covenants hereinafter mentioned to be kept and performed by the Lessee, the Lessor hereby leases the Units to the Lessee upon the following terms and conditions:

1. Delivery and Acceptance of Units. The Lessee hereby accepts the Units whereupon each Unit shall be subject thereafter to all terms and conditions of this Lease. The Lessor warrants that it has good title to each Unit free and clear of any liens and encumbrances.

2. Car Hire Earnings. Upon acceptance of the Units as set forth in paragraph 1 hereof, with Lessee reporting marks on each Unit as set forth in paragraph 5 and Annex A hereto, Lessee shall enjoy all car hire earnings (per diem and mileage) thereafter until the expiration or sooner termination of this Lease.

3. Rentals. The Lessee agrees to pay the Lessor rental for each Unit subject to this Lease for fifty-seven (57) monthly installments, payable monthly in arrears. The fifty-seven (57) payments shall be in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ each per Unit.

In the event the Lessee shall be in default in the payment of any sum of money to be paid under this Lease, whether rental or otherwise, the Lessee shall pay the Lessor, as additional rental, to the extent permitted by applicable law, interest on such unpaid sum from its due date to date of payment by the Lessee at a rate equal to 13% per annum.

Lease payments shall be made to Helm Financial at the address specified in Article 16 on the last day of each month. The Lessee agrees to make each payment provided for herein, as contemplated by this paragraph, on the date such payment is due.

This Lease is a net lease, and the Lessee's obligation to pay all rent and other amounts as they become due is unconditional. Lessee is not entitled to abate or reduce any rent or amounts due under this Lease, or to set off any charges against those amounts for any reason. Lessee is not entitled to crossclaims, counterclaims or any other defenses to the payment of rent or other amounts due under this Lease. Lessee's obligation to pay all rent and other amounts due under this Lease shall not terminate for any reason except the termination of this Lease in accordance with its express terms. Lessee shall take no action to terminate, rescind or avoid this Lease notwithstanding any bankruptcy, insolvency or other proceeding affecting Lessor or Lessee.

4. Term of Lease. The term of this Lease with respect to each Unit shall begin on March 1, 1988, and, unless sooner terminated in accordance with the provisions of the Lease, shall end on the last day of the fifty-seventh month thereafter.

The obligations of the Lessee hereunder (including, but not limited to, the obligations of the Lessee under Paragraphs 6, 9 and 11 hereof) shall survive the expiration or sooner termination of this Lease.

5. Identification Marks. The Lessee will cause each Unit to be kept numbered with its identifying number as set forth in Annex A hereto and will keep and maintain, plainly, distinctly, permanently and conspicuously marked on each side of such Unit in letters not less than one inch in height, the words "Ownership subject to a security agreement filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission" or other appropriate words designated by the Lessor, with appropriate changes thereof and additions thereto as from time to time may be required by law in order to protect the title of the Lessor and the rights of the Lessor under this Lease. The Lessee will not place any such Unit in operation or exercise any control or dominion over the same until such names and word or words shall have been so marked on both sides thereof and will replace promptly any such names and word or words which may be removed, defaced or destroyed. The Lessee will not permit the identifying number of any Unit to be changed except in accordance with a statement of new identifying numbers to be substituted therefor, which statement previously shall have been filed with the Lessor by the Lessee and filed, recorded or deposited in all public offices where this Lease will have been filed, recorded and deposited.

Except as above provided, the Lessee will not allow the name of any person, association or corporation to be placed on the Units as a designation that might be interpreted as a claim of ownership; provided, however, that the Lessee may cause the Units to be lettered with the names or initials or other

insignia customarily used by the Lessee or its affiliates on railroad equipment used by it of the same or a similar type for convenience of identification of the right of the Lessee to use the Units under this Lease.

6. Taxes. All payments to be made by the Lessee hereunder will be free of expense to the Lessor for collection or other charges and will be free of expense to the Lessor with respect to the amount of any local, state or federal taxes (other than the federal income tax payable by the Lessor in consequence of the receipt of payments provided herein and other than state or city income taxes or franchise taxes measured by gross or net income based on such receipts), assessments or licenses (and any charges, fines or penalties in connection with or measured by, this Lease or any sale, rental, use, payment, shipment, delivery or transfer of title under the terms hereof), all of which taxes, assessments, licenses, charges, fines and penalties the Lessee assumes and agrees to pay on demand in addition to the payments to be made by it provided for herein. The Lessee will also pay promptly all taxes, assessments or licenses (and any charges, fines or penalties in connection therewith) which may be imposed upon any Unit or for the use or operation thereof or upon the Lessee's earnings arising therefrom or upon the Lessor solely by reason of its ownership thereof and will keep at all times all and every part of such Unit free and clear of all taxes and assessments which might in any way affect the title of the Lessor or result in a lien upon any such Unit (hereinafter called Impositions); provided, however, that the Lessee shall not be obligated to reimburse the Lessor for any Impositions so paid unless the Lessor shall have been legally liable with respect thereto, or unless the Lessee shall have approved the payment thereof. The Lessee may in good faith, contest the validity or application of any such tax in any reasonable manner which does not, in the reasonable opinion of the Lessor, adversely affect the property or rights of the Lessor hereunder.

In the event any reports with respect to Impositions are required to be made on the basis of individual Units the Lessee will either make such reports in such manner as to show the interest of the Lessor in such Units or will notify the Lessor of such requirement and will make such reports in such manner as shall be satisfactory to the Lessor.

In the event that, during the continuance of this Lease, the Lessee becomes liable for the payment or reimbursement of any Impositions, pursuant to this Paragraph 6, such liability shall continue, notwithstanding the expiration or sooner termination of the term of this Lease, until all such Impositions are paid or reimbursed by the Lessee.

7. Casualty Occurrence. In the event that any Unit shall be or become worn out, lost, stolen, destroyed or irreparably damaged or obsolete or economically unserviceable for use from any cause whatsoever, or any Unit shall be condemned, confiscated, or seized, or the title to or use of any Unit shall be requisitioned (such occurrences being hereinafter called Casualty Occurrences) during the term of this Lease, the Lessee shall on the next succeeding rental payment date after it shall have determined that such Unit has suffered a Casualty Occurrence, fully inform the Lessor in regard thereto. On such date the Lessee shall pay to the Lessor an amount equal to the accrued rental for such Unit to the date of such payment plus an amount equal to the settlement derived under Rule 107 of the Association of American Railroads' Field Manual. Upon the making of such payment by the Lessee in respect of a Unit, the rental for such Unit shall cease to accrue as of the date of such payment, the term of this Lease as to such Unit shall terminate and (except in the case of the loss, theft or complete destruction of such Unit) the Lessor shall be entitled to recover possession of such Unit.

Except as hereinabove in this paragraph 7 provided, the Lessee shall not be released from its obligations hereunder in the event of, and shall bear the risk of, any Casualty Occurrence to any Unit after delivery to and acceptance thereof by the Lessee hereunder.

8. Report and Inspection. The Lessor at its sole cost and expense, shall have the right by its agents on notice to Lessee to inspect the Units and the Lessee's records with respect thereto during normal business hours as the Lessor may request during the continuance of this Lease.

9. Compliance with Laws and Rules; Maintenance; Insurance and Indemnification. The Lessor makes no warranty or representation, either expressed or implied, as to the design, compliance with specifications, or condition of, or as to the quality of the material, equipment or workmanship in, the Units delivered to the Lessee hereunder, and THE LESSOR MAKES NO WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF THE UNITS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE, OR AS TO CONDITION, COMPLIANCE WITH SPECIFICATIONS, QUALITY OF UNITS OR ANY COMPONENT THEREOF, OR ANY OTHER REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, WITH RESPECT TO ANY UNIT, OR COMPONENT THEREOF, EITHER UPON DELIVERY THEREOF TO THE LESSEE OR OTHERWISE, it being agreed that all such risks, as between the Lessor and the Lessee, are to be borne by the Lessee.

The Lessee agrees, for the benefit of the Lessor, to comply in all respects with all laws of the jurisdictions in which operations involving any Unit subject to this Lease may extend, with the interchange rules of the Association of American Railroads and with all rules of the Interstate Commerce Commission

and any other legislative, executive, administrative or judicial body exercising any power or jurisdiction over any such Unit, to the extent such laws and rules affect the operations or use of such Unit; and in the event such laws or rules require the alternation of any such Unit, the Lessee will conform therewith, at its expense, and will maintain the same in proper condition or operation under such laws and rules; provided, however, that the Lessee may, in good faith, contest the validity or application of any such law or rule in any reasonable manner which does not, in the reasonable opinion of the Lessor, adversely affect the property or rights of the Lessor hereunder.

Subject to paragraph 7, the Lessee agrees, that at its own cost and expense, it will return the Units to the Lessor at the expiration of the term or sooner termination of this Lease in good order and repair, ordinary wear and tear excepted, suitable for movement in the interchange system.

Any and all additions to any Unit and any replacements thereto and of parts thereof made by the Lessee shall constitute accessions to such Unit and, without cost or expense to the Lessor, there shall be immediately vested in the Lessor the same interest therein as the interests of the Lessor in such Unit.

The Lessee will at all times during the term of this Lease, at its own expense, cause to be carried and maintained public liability insurance an amount not less than \$5,000,000.

The Lessee agrees to indemnify and save Lessor harmless from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, costs, and expenses, including attorney fees, arising directly or indirectly out of the use, custody, control, or operation of the Units, during the term of this Lease, whether in contract, tort, strict liability in tort or otherwise. In any personal injury action(s) arising from the operation of said Units during the term of this Lease naming Lessor as a defendant, Lessee shall undertake the defense and costs associated therewith, including payment of any judgement directed against Lessor jointly or severally. Lessee also agrees to pay and indemnify Lessor from any and all penalties, fines, and levies arising from the operation of said Units under this Agreement. Lessee's obligation hereunder shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

The Lessee agrees to prepare and deliver to the Lessor within a reasonable time prior to the required date of filing (or, to the extent permissible, file on behalf of the Lessor) any and all mandatory reports of which the Lessee has actual knowledge, except income tax reports, to be filed by the Lessor, with any Federal, state or other regulatory authority by reason of the ownership by the Lessor of the Units or the leasing of

the Units to the Lessee. The Lessor shall notify the Lessee of any such reports of which the Lessor has actual knowledge.

10. Return of the Units Upon Expiration of Term. As soon as practicable on or after the expiration of the term of this Lease with respect to any Unit, the Lessee will, at its own cost and expense, at the request of the Lessor, deliver possession of such Unit to the Lessor upon such storage tracks of the Lessee or its Affiliates as the Lessor may reasonably designate. The Lessee shall permit the Lessor to store such Unit on such tracks free of charge for a period not exceeding ninety days after such expiration and shall transport the same to any reasonable place on the lines of railroad operated by the Lessee or to any connecting carrier for shipment, all as reasonably directed by the Lessor. The movement and storage of such Unit shall be at the expense and risk of the Lessee if the Lessor has given movement and storage instructions within the above ninety-day period. If no movement instructions were given by the Lessor within such ninety-day period, the movement and storage of any Unit after such ninety-day period shall be at the expense and risk of the Lessor.

During any such storage period the Lessee will permit the Lessor or any person designated by it, including the authorized representative or representatives of any prospective purchaser of any such Unit, to inspect the same during normal business hours.

11. Default. If, during the continuance of this Lease, one or more of the following events (herein sometimes called Events of Default) shall occur;

(a) default shall be made in the payment of any part of the rental provided in paragraph 3 hereof and such default shall continue for ten days after written notice is sent to Lessee;

(b) the Lessee shall make or permit any unauthorized assignment or transfer of this Lease or of possession of the Units, or any thereof;

(c) default shall be made in the observance or performance of any other of the covenants, conditions and agreements on the part of the Lessee contained herein and such default shall continue for thirty days after written notice from the Lessor to the Lessee specifying the default and demanding the same to be remedied;

(d) any proceedings shall be commenced by or against the Lessee for any relief under any bankruptcy or insolvency laws, or laws relating to the relief of debtors, readjustments of indebtedness, reorganizations,

arrangements, compositions or extension (other than a law which does not permit any readjustment of the obligations of the Lessee hereunder), and all the obligations of the Lessee under this Lease shall not have been duly assumed in writing, pursuant to a court order or decree, by a trustee or trustees or receiver or receivers appointed for the Lessee or for the property of the Lessee in connection with any such proceedings in such manner that the status of such shall be the same as expense of administrative expenses incurred by such a trustee or trustees or receiver or receivers, within thirty days after such appointment, if any, or sixty days after such proceedings shall have been commenced, whichever shall be earlier;

(e) any material representation made by the Lessee herein or in any certificate or other instrument delivered under or pursuant to any provision hereof shall prove to have been false or incorrect in any material respect on the date as of which made;

then, in any such case, the Lessor, at its option may:

(i) proceed by appropriate court action or actions either at law or in equity, to enforce performance by the Lessee of the applicable covenants of this Lease or to recover damages for the breach thereof; or

(ii) by notice in writing to the Lessee terminate this Lease, whereupon all rights of the Lessee to the use of the Units shall absolutely cease and determine as though this Lease had never been made, but the Lessee shall remain liable as herein provided; and thereupon, the Lessor may in a reasonable manner and without damage to the property of the Lessee or injury to any person by its agents enter upon the premises of the Lessee or other premises where any of the Units may be and take possession of all or any of such Units and thenceforth hold, possess and enjoy the same free from any right of the Lessee, or its successors or assigns, to use the Units for any purposes whatever; but the Lessor shall, nevertheless, have a right to recover from the Lessee any and all amounts which under the terms of this Lease may be then due or which may have accrued to the date of such termination (computing the rental for any number of days less than a full rental period by multiplying the rental for such full rental period by a fraction of which the numerator is such number of days and the denominator is the total number of days in such full rental period) and also to recover forthwith from the Lessee (a) as representing actual loss incurred by the Lessor, damages for loss of the bargain and not as a penalty, a sum, with respect to each Unit which represents the excess of the then present value of all



rentals for such Unit which would otherwise have accrued hereunder from the date of such termination to the end of the term of this Lease as to such Unit over the then present value of the then fair rental value of such Unit for such period computed by discounting to the date of such termination rentals which the Lessor reasonably estimates to be obtainable for the use of the Unit during such period, such present value to be computed in each case on a basis of a 12% per annum discount, compounded annually from the respective dates upon which rentals would have been payable hereunder had this Lease not been terminated, and (b) any damages and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, in addition thereto which the Lessor shall have sustained by reason of the breach of any covenant or covenants of this Lease other than for the payment of rental, including, without limitation, expenses of resale or re-leasing (including incidental transportation costs incurred by Lessor).

The remedies in this Lease provided in favor of the Lessor shall not be deemed exclusive, but shall be cumulative, and shall be in addition to all other remedies in its favor existing at law or in equity. The Lessee hereby waives any mandatory requirements of law, now or hereafter in effect, which might limit or modify the remedies herein provided, to the extent that such waiver is permitted by law.

The failure of the Lessor to exercise the rights granted it hereunder upon any occurrence of any of the contingencies set forth herein shall not constitute a waiver of any such right upon the continuation or recurrence of any such contingencies or similar contingencies.

12. Return of Units Upon Default. If this Lease shall terminate pursuant to Paragraph 11 hereof, the Lessee shall forthwith deliver possession of the Units to the Lessor. The condition of the Units upon such return shall be as required pursuant to Paragraph 9 hereof. For the purpose of delivering possession of any Unit or Units to the Lessor as above required, the Lessee shall at its own cost, expense, and risk:

(a) Forthwith place such Units upon such storage tracks of the Lessee or its Affiliates as the Lessor reasonably may designate or, in the absence of such designation, as the Lessee may select,

(b) permit the Lessor to store such Units on such tracks for a period of not exceeding ninety (90) days at the risk of the Lessee, and

(c) transport the same, at any time within such ninety-day period, to any place on the lines of railroad

operated by the Lessee or any of its Affiliates or to any connecting carrier for shipment, all as reasonably directed by the Lessor. The assembling, delivery, storage and transporting of the Units as provided in this paragraph 12 are of the essence of this Lease, and upon application to any court of equity having jurisdiction in the premises the Lessor shall be entitled to a decree against the Lessee requiring specific performance of the covenants of the Lessee so to assemble, deliver, store and transport the Units.

Without in any way limiting the obligation of the Lessee under the foregoing provisions of this Paragraph 12, the Lessee hereby irrevocably appoints the Lessor as the agent and attorney of the Lessee, with full power and authority, at any time while the Lessee is obligated to deliver possession of any Unit to the Lessor, to demand and take possession of such Unit in the name and on behalf of the Lessee from whomsoever shall be at the time in possession of such Unit. In connection therewith Lessee will supply Lessor with such documents as Lessor may reasonably request.

13. Assignment; Possession and Use. Conditioned upon the Lessee performing all of the terms, covenants, and conditions of this Lease, the Lessor, its successors and assigns will not disturb the Lessee's peaceable and quiet possession and use of the Units during the term of this Lease, provided, that no Event of Default has occurred and is continuing.

This Lease shall be assignable in whole or in part by the Lessor without the consent of the Lessee, but the Lessee shall be under no obligation to any assignee of the Lessor except upon written notice of such assignment from the Lessor. All the rights of the Lessor hereunder (including but not limited to the rights under Paragraphs 6, 9 and 11) shall inure to the benefit of the Lessor's assigns. Whenever the term Lessor is used in this Lease it shall apply and refer to each assignee of the Lessor.

So long as the Lessee shall not be in default under this Lease, the Lessee may without any prior consent of the Lessor sublease any one or more of the Units or assign this Lease to any one or more of the Lessee's Affiliates, or with the prior written consent of the Lessor, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, sublease the Units to third parties; provided, that (i) such sublease or assignment shall provide that the subject Units shall be operated and maintained in accordance with the terms hereof; (ii) the Lessee shall provide the Lessor with 10 days advance notice of any such sublease or assignment and a copy of such sublease or assignment; (iii) such sublease shall be subject and subordinate to the terms and provisions of this Lease and the interests of the Lessor; and (iv) no such sublease

or assignment shall relieve Lessee of its obligations hereunder, which shall remain those of a principal and not a surety.

The Lessee represents and warrants that: (i) Lessee (or any assignee or sublessee) will not at any time during the term of this Lease use or fail to use any Unit, in such a way as to disqualify it as "Section 38 property" within the meaning of Section 48 of the United States Internal Revenue Code; (ii) Lessee (or any assignee or sublessee) will at all times during the term of this Lease use each Unit in such a way that for federal income tax purposes, all amounts includable in the gross income of Lessor with respect to each Unit and all deductions allowable to Lessor with respect to each Unit will be treated as derived from, or allowable to, sources within the United States; and (iii) Lessee will maintain sufficient records to verify such use, which records will be furnished to Lessor within 30 days after receipt of a written demand therefor.

So long as the Lessee shall not be in default under this Lease, the Lessee shall be entitled to the possession and use of the Units in accordance with the terms of this Lease, but the Lessee shall not assign or transfer (except as otherwise permitted by this paragraph 13) or encumber its leasehold interest under this Lease in the Units or any of them (except to the extent that the provisions of any existing mortgage on any of the lines of railroad of the Lessee may subject such leasehold interest to the lien thereof); and, in addition, the Lessee, at its own expense, will as soon as possible cause to be duly discharged any lien, charge or other encumbrance (other than an encumbrance resulting from claims against the Lessor not related to the ownership of the Units) which may at any time be imposed on or with respect to any unit or the interest of the Lessor or the Lessee therein. The Lessee shall not, without the prior written consent of the Lessor, part with the possession or control of, or suffer or allow to pass out of its possession or control, any of the Units, except to the extent permitted by the provision of the next succeeding paragraph hereof.

So long as the Lessee shall not be in default under this Lease, the Lessee shall be entitled to the possession of the Units and to the use thereof upon the lines of railroad owned or operated by it (either alone or jointly) or by any corporation a majority of whose voting stock (i.e., having ordinary voting power for the election of a majority of its Board of Directors) is owned directly or indirectly by the Lessee, or its Affiliates, or upon lines of railroad over which the Lessee or any such corporation has trackage or other operating rights or over which railroad equipment of the Lessee is regularly operated pursuant to contract, and also to permit the use of the Units upon connecting and other railroads in the usual interchange of traffic, but only upon and subject to all the terms and conditions of this Lease.

Nothing in this Paragraph 13 shall be deemed to restrict the right of the Lessee to assign or transfer its leasehold interest under this Lease in the Units or possession of the Units to any corporation (which shall have duly assumed the obligations hereunder of the Lessee) into or with which the Lessee shall have become merged or consolidated or which shall have acquired the property of the Lessee as an entirety or substantially as an entirety; provided, however, (i) that such assignee or transferee will not, upon the effectiveness of such merger, consolidation or acquisition be in default under any provision of this Lease, (ii) such assignee or transferee shall be of a character so that after giving effect to such merger, consolidation or acquisition, the ability of the assignee or transferee to perform the obligations of the Lessee hereunder shall not, in the reasonable opinion of the Lessor, be adversely affected; and (iii) such assignee or transferee shall execute an assumption agreement expressly assuming all of the obligations of the Lessee hereunder (including, but not limited to, Paragraph 17 hereof).

In connection with any sublease or assignment by Lessee under this Paragraph 13, whether or not Lessee is required to obtain the consent of the Lessor to any such transaction, Lessee agrees, at its expense, to cause any such assignment or sublease to be duly filed and recorded with the Interstate Commerce Commission in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 11303 in order to protect the interest of the Lessor in and to the Units under this Lease.

The Lessee agrees that during the term of this Lease, the Lessee will not assign any Unit to service involving the operation and maintenance thereof outside the United States of America and that during such term use of any Unit outside the United States of America will be limited to incidental and temporary use in Canada.

14. Lessee's Representations and Warranties. The Lessee hereby represents and warrants that:

(a) the Lessee is a corporation legally incorporated and validly existing, in good standing, under the laws of its jurisdiction of incorporation, with adequate corporate power to enter into this Lease;

(b) this Lease has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Lessee and constitutes a valid, legal and binding agreement, enforceable in accordance with its terms;

(c) the execution and performance of this Lease will not contravene or breach or create a material default

under any legal, organizational or contractual obligation binding upon the Lessee;

(d) this Lease will be duly filed and recorded with the Interstate Commerce Commission under 49 U.S.C.11303.

15. Recording. Shortly after the execution of this Lease, and in connection with any sublease or assignment permitted by Paragraph 13 hereof, the Lessee will cause this Lease and any such sublease or assignment to be filed and recorded with the Interstate Commerce Commission in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 11303. The Lessee will, from time to time, do and perform any other act and will execute, acknowledge, deliver, file, register, record and deposit (and will refile, reregister, rerecord or redeposit whenever required) any and all further instruments required by law or reasonably requested by the Lessor, for the purpose of proper protection to the satisfaction of the Lessor of its title to the Units or for the purpose of carrying out the intention of this Lease.

16. Notices. Any notice required or permitted to be given by either party hereto to the other shall be deemed to have been given when deposited in the United States certified mails, first-class postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

If to the Lessor: Helm Financial Corporation  
One Embarcadero Center  
Suite 3320  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
Attn: President

If to the Lessee: Wisconsin Central Ltd.  
P.O. Box 5062  
Rosemont, IL 60017  
Attn: Joe D. Darling

or addressed to either party at such other address as such party shall hereafter furnish to the other party in writing.

17. Severability. Any provision of this Lease which is prohibited or unenforceable in any jurisdiction shall, as to such jurisdiction, be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition of unenforceability without invalidating the remaining provisions hereof, and any such prohibition or unenforceability in any jurisdiction shall not invalidate or render unenforceable such provision in any other jurisdiction.

18. Effect and Modification of Lease. This Lease exclusively and completely states the rights of the Lessor and the Lessee with respect to the leasing of the Units and supersedes all other agreements, oral or written, with respect

thereto. No variation or modification of this Lease and no waiver of any of its provisions or conditions shall be valid unless in writing and signed by duly authorized signatories for the Lessor and the Lessee.

19. Successors and Assigns. This Lease will bind and inure to the benefit of the respective successors and permitted assigns of the parties hereto.

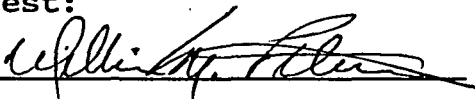
20. Execution. This Lease, and any lease supplemental hereto, may be executed in several counterparts, each of which so executed shall be deemed to be an original, and in each case such counterparts together shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

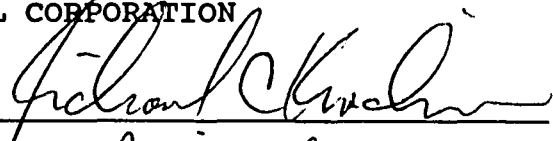
21. Law Governing. This Lease shall be construed, and all questions concerning its performance and the rights and remedies of the parties hereunder shall be determined, in accordance with the laws of Illinois; provided, however, that the parties shall be entitled to all rights conferred by 49 U.S.C. 11303.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Lessor and the Lessee, each pursuant to due authority, have caused these presents to be signed in their respective names as of the date first above written.

HELM FINANCIAL CORPORATION

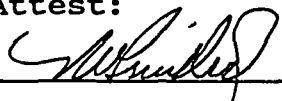
Attest:

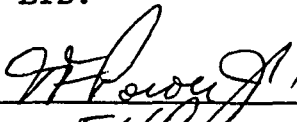
  
Title SECRETARY

By   
Title PRESIDENT

WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD.

Attest:

  
Title AUP- EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT

By   
Title EVP

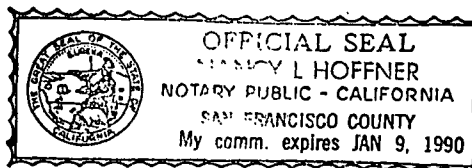
STATE OF CALIFORNIA                    )  
  ) §  
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO            )

On this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 1988, before me personally appeared Richard C. Kirchner, to me personally known, who, being by me duly sworn, says that he is President of Helm Financial Corporation, that said instrument was signed and sealed on behalf of said corporation by authority of its Board of Directors and he acknowledged that the execution of the foregoing instrument was the free act and deed of said corporation.

Nancy L Hoffner  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: January 9, 1990

[Notarial Seal]



STATE OF ILLINOIS                    )  
  ) §  
COUNTY OF COOK                    )

On this 27 day of April, 1988, before me personally appears Thomas J. Power, to me personally known, who being by me duly sworn says that he is an Exec Vice Pres. of WISCONSIN CENTRAL LTD., that said instrument was signed and sealed on behalf of said corporation by authority of its President and Directors and he acknowledged that the execution of the foregoing instrument was the free act and deed of said corporation.

LaVerne McDonough  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 10/15/91

[Notarial Seal]

15

